

Course title: Population and Quantitative Genetics
JE 201 (Aug) 3 credits Course

Instructor : Prof. Amitabh Joshi

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Outline of the course:

Aug - Dec 2007

ca. 42 hrs lecture; pre-requisites: basic knowledge of Mendelian genetics, Std. XII level algebra and probability theory; 5-6 homework assignments, possibly augmented by one open book exam.

Syllabus:

Historical outline of the development of classical population genetic theory.

Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium for one and two loci and X-linked loci.

Basic models of mutation, migration, viability selection, selection-mutation and selection-migration balance.

Basic models incorporating temporally and spatially varying selection intensities.

Breeding systems: inbreeding and assortative mating.

Genetic composition of finite populations: random genetic drift.

Evolution in spatially sub-structured populations; Wright's F-statistics.

Quantitative traits: phenotypic variance and its partitioning. Genetic basis of quantitative trait phenotypes. Selection on quantitative traits. Genetic correlations and correlated responses to selection. Maintenance of quantitative genetic variation in populations. Genotype-by-environment interactions and plasticity.

Books: Principles of Population Genetics (Daniel L. Hartl & Andrew G. Clark). Quantitative Genetics (D. S. Falconer & T. F. C. Mackay). The Origins of Theoretical Population Genetics (W. B. Provine).